

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS

For Week Ending July 26, 1992

Issue: 20-92

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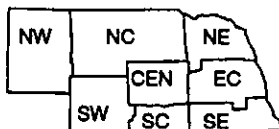
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Lincoln, NE 68501

National Agricultural Statistics Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
and U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin.
National Weather Service



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Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
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WEATHER

Cool, wet weather continued over Nebraska. Average weekly temperatures ranged from seven to ten degrees below normal. Weekly rainfall totals ranged from around a half inch in the Panhandle to nearly nine inches in the southeast where flooding was reported.

GENERAL

Damp, cloudy, rainy weather conditions continued to plague some producers wanting to harvest wheat, oats, and alfalfa, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Fieldwork activities were once again limited by additional storm systems and/or field conditions not yet dried out sufficiently for in-field work. The cool, below normal temperatures continue to hinder the plant development of fall harvested crops. Since "growing degree days" are currently behind normal, concerns arise about effects of an early frost. Many irrigation systems were being operated sparingly, which is not usual for late July in Nebraska.

CROPS

Wheat condition was rated at 14% very poor, 29% poor, 41% fair, and 16% good. Harvest made rapid progress in those areas where surface conditions and climatic conditions permitted, but mostly producers were continually hindered in their effort. As of Sunday, 82% had been combined, about nine days behind normal statewide. Last year at this time and the 5-year average were 95% complete. Weeds in unharvested fields continue to present problems with some producers abandoning severely weedy areas of fields, others marketing wheat with a higher moisture test and lowest test weights.

CROPS (Cont.)

Corn condition was rated at 7% poor, 14% fair, 56% good, and 23% excellent. Statewide, the crop development was about nine days behind normal with replanted acreage in greater need of warmer, sunny days. Concerns have been expressed about the lack of "growing degree days" and the normal time frame until the first killing frost.

Soybean condition was rated at 6% fair, 74% good, and 20% excellent. Cultivation and chemical weed control continued where surface conditions permitted. Crop development made good progress as percent blooming neared the average, although plants have begun setting pods about two weeks behind the 5-year average.

Sorghum condition was rated at 2% poor, 11% fair, 67% good, and 20% excellent. Heading has begun in most areas of the State, but this development stage was also about two weeks behind normal. Cultivation continued where possible.

Alfalfa condition was rated at 2% poor, 18% fair, 75% good, and 5% excellent. Second cutting activities continued where possible, although some producers still have "down" hay which has been wet and turned many times. Third cutting activities are underway where conditions permit. Wild hay condition was rated at 53% fair, 40% good, and 7% excellent.

LIVESTOCK

Pasture and range condition was rated at 96% of normal and compares with 82% of normal last year at this time. Grass growth was providing more than adequate grazing with cattle showing little stress due to the cooler summer temperatures. Flies continue to be bothersome for cattle.

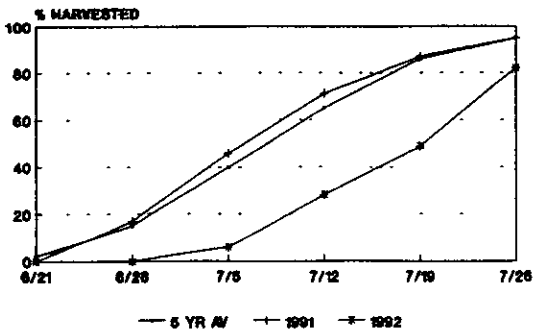
FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF JULY 26, 1992	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% wheat ripe	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	97	100	99
% wheat harvested	49	82	62	92	100	100	100	100	82	49	95	95
% oats harvested	5	14	50	50	51	100	44	74	48	16	94	87
% corn silked	26	18	60	71	89	33	81	98	69	27	89	77
% corn dough stage	0	0	2	0	6	2	3	4	3	0	17	9
% sorghum headed	0	1	2	2	1	0	1	4	2	0	42	28
% soybeans blooming	0	42	49	86	68	54	42	89	67	32	71	70
% soybeans setting pods	0	1	1	5	4	9	10	5	4	0	20	20
% alfalfa second cutting	44	64	100	100	90	100	100	92	87	69	89	87
% alfalfa third cutting	0	5	3	5	2	17	1	3	4	0	5	7
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF JULY 24, 1992												
Days suitable	4.0	3.8	2.9	2.9	2.5	4.3	0.6	2.8	2.9	3.6	5.9	
Topsoil moisture - Short	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	0	1	6	69	
(Percent) - Adequate	86	92	69	60	45	82	50	75	68	79	30	
- Surplus	14	8	31	40	55	9	50	25	31	15	1	
Subsoil moisture - Short	0	0	0	0	0	18	0	0	2	8	58	
(Percent) - Adequate	100	100	94	100	95	82	92	92	94	88	42	
- Surplus	0	0	6	0	5	0	8	8	4	4	0	

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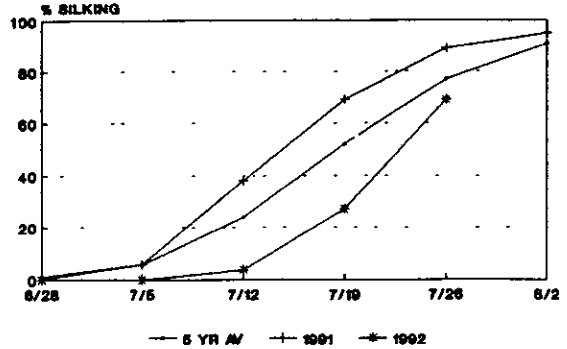
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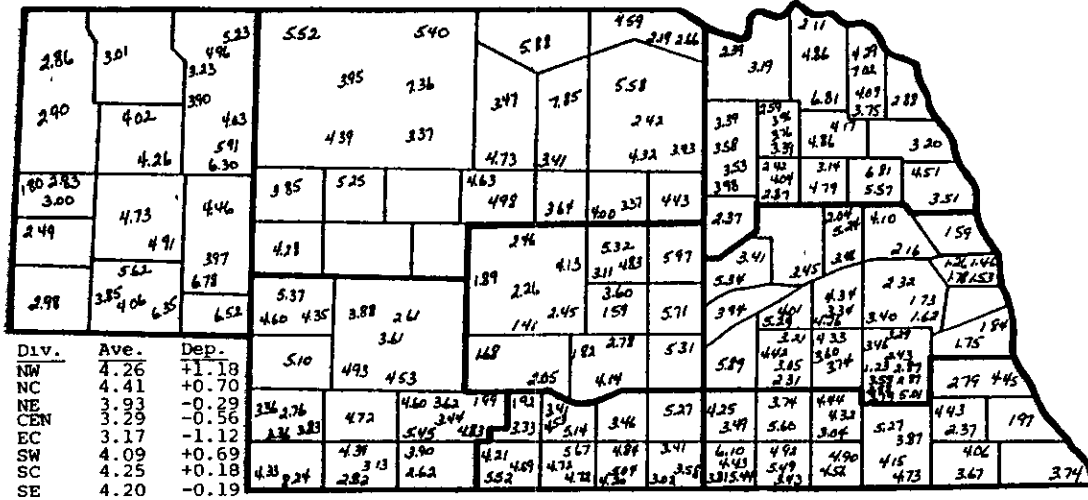
PROGRESS AS OF SUNDAY

CORN SILKING



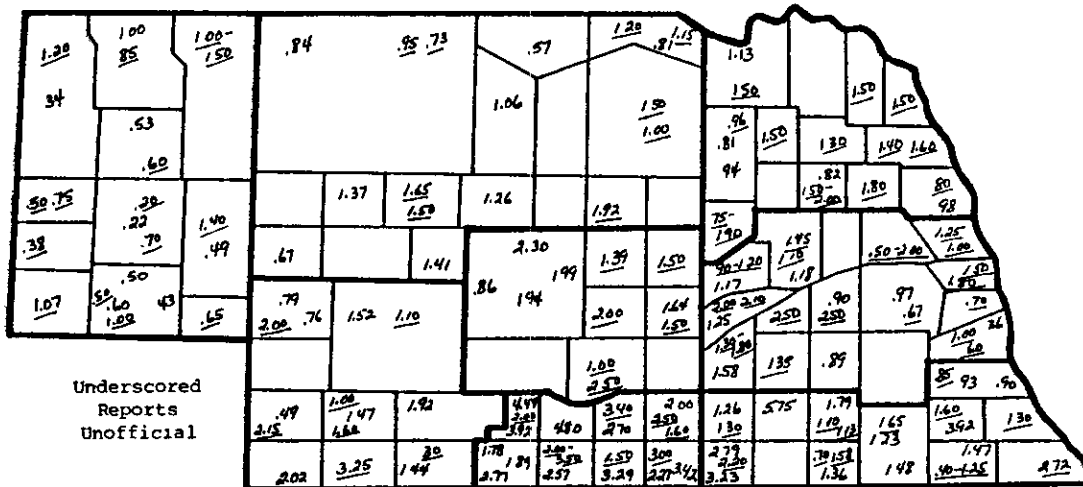
PROGRESS AS OF SUNDAY

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR MONTH OF JUNE 1992 1/



1/ Courtesy of the Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, JULY 24, 1992



PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - JULY 24, 1992

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	51	100	94	175	104	130	299	218
Total since April 1	898	974	11.71	989	1478	8.57	1133	1454
Normal since April 1	970	1147	12.95	1229	1359	10.52	1227	1405

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA,
WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, JULY 26, 1992

Station		Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches 1/	Last Week	Current	Normal
		Max	Min						
NW	Chadron	91	52	69	---	42	---	---	---
	Scottsbluff	89	50	68	-7	.67	1382	1508	1534
	Sidney	---	---	---	---	---	1324	1456	1509
NC	Valentine	89	49	65	-10	87	1277	1386	1548
NE	Norfolk	84	51	67	-9	1 18	---	---	---
	Sioux City	83	52	67	-9	2 08	---	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	---	1332	1437	1766
CEN	Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	1262	1361	1711
	West Point*	---	---	---	---	---	1406	1521	1809
	Grand Island	86	53	68	-9	1 89	1448	1575	1782
	Ord	84	54	66	---	1 19	1354	1471	1768
	EC	Lincoln	88	55	70	-8	72	1570	1713
SW	Omaha	80	56	67	-9	2 24	1504	1625	1789
	Columbus	---	---	---	---	---	1473	1590	1822
	York	---	---	---	---	---	1456	1594	1877
	Imperial	88	52	68	---	38	---	---	---
	North Platte	88	50	67	-8	1 14	**1326	**1435	**1677
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	1440	1567	1833
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	1510	1651	1979
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	1443	1569	1869

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above *Automated weather station. **West Central Research & Extension Center

Growing Degree Days (GDD) are used to measure the length of time required for a crop to reach maturity. The formula used to calculate GDD is: Max temp + min. temp divided by 2 minus 50 = GDD For example, if the average temperature for a day = 70 degrees, the GDD = 20 for that day GDD are calculated for each day and accumulated from April 15.

Growing Degree Day data is furnished by the Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln